

**Appln No. 10/734,931**  
**Amdt date December 31, 2007**  
**Reply to Office action of October 23, 2007**

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A needle protector clip for protecting a tip of a needle, said needle protector clip comprising:

a proximal wall comprising an opening having a needle passing therethrough, the proximal wall defining a plane;

a first resilient arm extending distally to the plane of the proximal wall, the first resilient arm comprising a first arm section comprising a first dimension and a second arm section comprising a second dimension, wherein the first dimension is larger than the second dimension;

a second resilient arm extending distally to the plane of the proximal wall, the second resilient arm comprising a first arm section comprising a first dimension and a second arm section comprising a second dimension, wherein the first dimension is larger than the second dimension; and

wherein the first resilient arm ~~crosses~~ intersects the second resilient arm at their respective second arm sections.

2. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 1 made from a metal.

3. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 2, wherein the metal is stainless steel.

4. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 1, wherein the proximal wall has a width having a dimension greater than the second dimension of the second arm section of the first resilient arm.

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5. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 1, wherein the proximal wall has a width having a dimension greater than the second dimension of the second arm section of the second resilient arm.

6. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 1, wherein the second dimension of the second arm section of the first resilient arm and the second dimension of the second arm section of the second resilient arm are substantially the same.

7. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 1, wherein the first resilient arm further comprises a curved lip.

8. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 7, wherein the second resilient arm further comprises a curved lip.

9. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 8, wherein the first resilient arm and the second resilient arm each comprises a distal wall and wherein the curved lip extends from the distal wall.

10. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 1, wherein the first resilient arm and the second resilient arm have arm portions that overlap.

11. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 1 made from a unitary construction.

12. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 9 made from a unitary construction.

13. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 1, wherein the clip is positioned in an interior cavity of a catheter hub and wherein the needle is attached to a needle hub.

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14. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 13, wherein a portion of the needle protector clip contacts an interior surface of the interior cavity of the catheter hub.

15. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 14, wherein the needle hub contacts the catheter hub.

16. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 13, wherein the needle comprises a crimp or a bump.

17. (Original) The needle protector clip of claim 13, wherein the needle urges the first resilient arm and second resilient arm radially outwardly.

18. (Currently Amended) A needle protector clip for protecting a tip of a needle, said needle protector clip comprising:

a proximal wall comprising an opening having a needle passing therethrough, the proximal wall defining a plane;

a first resilient arm extending distally to the plane of the proximal wall and terminating in a distal arm wall, the first resilient arm comprising a first arm section comprising a first dimension and a second arm section comprising a second dimension, wherein the first dimension is larger than the second dimension;

a second resilient arm extending distally to the plane of the proximal wall and terminating in a distal arm wall, the second resilient arm comprising a first arm section comprising a first dimension and a second arm section comprising a second dimension, wherein the first dimension is larger than the second dimension; and

wherein the first resilient arm and the second resilient arm ~~crosses~~ intersect one another and wherein ~~the a distal arm wall of the first resilient arm and the distal arm wall of the second resilient arm have portions that overlap~~ positioned distally of at least one of the first resilient arm and the second resilient arm.

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19. (Currently Amended) A needle guard for shielding a needle tip comprising:  
a proximal end wall having an opening for receiving a needle therethrough;  
first and second arms each comprising a wide section, narrow section, and a distal wall at  
an end thereof, the first and second arms extending distally from the proximal end wall; and  
wherein the first arm ~~crosses~~ intersects the second arm and their respective distal walls  
overlap.

20. (Original) The needle guard of claim 19, wherein the distal walls of the first and  
second arms have portions that are generally parallel to the plane defined by the proximal end  
wall.

21. (Original) The needle guard of claim 19, wherein the needle guard is positioned  
in an interior cavity of a catheter hub and wherein a needle attached to a needle hub passes  
through the opening at the proximal end wall of the needle guard.

22. (Original) The needle guard of claim 21, wherein the catheter hub contacts the  
needle hub.

Claims 23-32 (Canceled)

33. (Previously presented) The needle guard of claim 19, further comprising two side  
flaps positioned proximate the distal wall of the first arm or the second arm.

34. (Previously presented) The needle guard of claim 33, wherein the side flaps are  
located proximate the distal wall of the first arm.

35. (Previously presented) The needle guard of claim 33, wherein the side flaps are  
located proximate the distal wall of the second arm.

36. (Previously presented) The needle guard of claim 19, further comprising an arm extension member formed adjacent an edge of either the first arm or the second arm.

37. (Previously presented) The needle guard of claim 33, further comprising an arm extension member formed adjacent an edge of either the first arm or the second arm.

38. (Previously presented) The needle protector clip of claim 7, further comprising a finger extending from the curved lip of the first resilient arm.

39. (Previously presented) The needle protector clip of claim 8, further comprising a finger extending from the curved lip of the second resilient arm.

40. (Previously presented) The needle protector clip of claim 38, further comprising two side flaps located on the finger of the first resilient arm.

41. (Previously presented) The needle protector clip of claim 39, further comprising two side flaps located on the finger of the second resilient arm.

42. (Previously presented) The needle protector clip of claim 39, further comprising two side flaps located on the finger of the first arm and the finger of the second arm.

43. (Previously presented) The needle protector clip of claim 39, further comprising an arm extension member formed on the first arm and the second arm.

44. (Previously presented) The needle protector clip of claim 1, wherein the needle guard is positioned inside an interior cavity of a catheter hub and wherein a needle attached to a needle hub passes through the opening at the proximal end wall of the needle guard.

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45. (Previously presented) The needle protector clip of claim 41, wherein the needle guard is positioned inside an interior cavity of a catheter hub and wherein a needle attached to a needle hub passes through the opening at the proximal end wall of the needle guard.

46. (Previously presented) The needle protector clip of claim 40, wherein the needle guard is positioned in an interior cavity of a catheter hub and wherein a needle attached to a needle hub passes through the opening at the proximal end wall of the needle guard.

47. (Previously presented) The needle protector clip of claim 40, wherein the side flaps each comprises two side edges and a top edge.